

A HARDWARE TRUST

Tremendous Combination of Capital to Control Trade.

MUCH CAPITAL IS REPRESENTED

A Combination That Proposes to Dominate the Hardware Business of the Country.

New York, Special.—Authoritative announcement of a consolidation of the great hardware interests in the country in a combination capitalized at \$120,000,000 will be made by The Iron Age. The consolidation embraces the Simmons Hardware Company, at St. Louis; Binkley Hardware Company, of Pittsburg; William Bingham Company, of Cleveland; Supple Hardware Company, of Philadelphia; Pacific Hardware and Steel Company, of Duluth; Bigelow & Dowse Company, of Boston; VanCamp Hardware Company, of Indianapolis; George E. Krich Hardware Company, of Denver; Janney, Semple, Hill & Co., of Minneapolis, and forty other houses, representing nearly every important trade centre of the country. Negotiations are still pending with other houses, and it is expected there will be further accessions to the number already named in the combination. The Iron Age says:

"Several names have been suggested for the consolidation, such as the National Hardware and Metal Company, International Hardware and Metal Company, and there is little doubt that one of these will be chosen. It is supposed that the officials shall be as follows: E. C. Simmons, president; John Binkley, vice president, and W. D. Simmons, chairman of the executive committee. There will be a board of directors, consisting of from 25 to 30 persons representing the different sections of the country. There will also be an executive committee of nine.

"The forming of the company is attended to by Moore & Schley, of New York, and George B. Hill & Co., of Pittsburg. It is intended to incorporate under the laws of New Jersey with a capital of \$120,000,000; \$40,000,000 preferred and \$80,000,000 common stock. The profits will be a 6 per cent. cumulative stock, preferred both for liquidation and dividends. The general headquarters for buying and selling and transportation of goods will be in St. Louis. The Eastern headquarters will be in New York.

"The principle of home rule will be recognized in connection with the local houses, who will make their own selling prices, except so far as this may interfere with the buying department or the expressed wishes of the manufacturers, which it will be the policy of the company to respect. Each house will be held responsible for the results of its business and if they are not satisfactory the house will be closed. The company naturally expects to purchase goods on the most favorable terms, in view of the large volume they will handle, and various economies will be secured as the direct result of the consolidation.

"As at present constituted it is estimated by the company that they will embrace something like two-thirds of the distributing efficiency of the jobbing trade of the country in the hardware line. They are content that the other third should remain competitors, as it is not intended to monopolize the jobbing business."

Election Law Criticized

Washington, Special.—A criticism of the election law of Virginia is made in the report filed by House elections committee No. 3, in the case of James A. Walker vs. Wm. F. Rhea, from the ninth district of Virginia. The committee reports in favor of Rhea, as the contestant has died. The law is criticized as "repugnant to all lovers of fair play and honest elections." An appeal is made to the constitutional convention of Virginia and to the General Assembly to make changes which will insure a fair and free vote and an honest count. Representative Johnson, of South Carolina, dissents from that part of the report making "strictures on the laws and the people of Virginia."

Drove Nail Into Husband's Head.

Wellington, Kans., Special.—In Grant county, Oklahoma, just across the line from here, Mrs. Peoples, a Bohemian, is reported to have killed her husband by driving a nail into his head. Peoples, a farmer, went home drunk, beat his wife and afterward ordered her to get his supper and went to sleep with his head leaning against a pine partition. When supper was ready the woman tried to awaken him but failed. Fearing that he would beat her again when he awoke for not calling him, she drove a nail through from the other side of the partition in the man's head, killing him. She made no attempt to escape.

Declined to Remove Boycott.

Norfolk, Special.—By a vote of 16 to 14 the Central Labor Union of this city have declined to remove the boycott against the Norfolk Railway and Light Company which has been on since March 1. This means that the fight will be continued indefinitely. The cars are running on schedule time and are experiencing no inconvenience.

Virginia Mountains Snow Covered.

Roads, Va., Special.—Snow has fallen here and the weather has turned very cold. The mountains are covered with several inches of snow. Further west the mercury has registered two degrees below freezing since early Tuesday morning and snow has been falling at intervals. Fruit trees are not yet in bloom and the wind continues high there will be little damage from the cold snap.

PRESIDENT'S EXPOSITION SPEECH.

Says Many Things Complimentary to Southern Progress.

The address of President Roosevelt at Charleston Wednesday was well-timed and well received. The President said in part:

"It is to me a peculiar privilege to speak here in your beautiful city. My mother's people were from Georgia; but before they came to Georgia, before the Revolution, in the days of Colonial rule, they dwelt for nearly a century in South Carolina; and therefore I can claim your State as mine by inheritance no less than by the stronger and nobler right which makes each foot of American soil in a sense the property of all Americans.

"Charleston is not only a typical Southern city; it is also a city whose history teems with events which link themselves to American history as a whole. In the early Colonial days Charleston was the outpost of our people against the Spaniard in the South. In the days of the Revolution there occurred here some of the events which vitally affected the outcome of the struggle for independence, and which impressed themselves most deeply upon the popular mind. It was here that the tremendous, terrible drama of the civil war opened.

"With delicate and thoughtful courtesy you originally asked me to come to this exposition on the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The invitation not only shows a fine generosity and manliness in you, my hosts, but it also emphasized as hardly anything else could have emphasized how completely we are now a united people. The wounds left by the great civil war, incomparably the greatest war of modern times, have healed; and its memories are now priceless heritages of honor alike to the North and to the South. The devotion, the self-sacrifice, the steadfast resolution and lofty daring, the high devotion to the rights as each man saw it, whether Northern or Southern—all these qualities of the men and women of the early sixties now shine luminous and brilliant before our eyes, while the mists of anger and hatred that once dimmed them have passed away forever.

"All of us, North and South, can glory alike in the valor of the men who wore the blue and the men who wore the gray. Those were iron times, and only iron men could fight to its terrible finish the giant struggle between the hosts of Grant and Lee. To us of the present day, and to our children and children's children, the valiant deeds, the high endeavor, and abnegation of self shown in that struggle by those who took part therein will remain forevermore to mark the level to which we in our turn must rise whenever the hour of the nation's need may come.

"When four years ago this nation was compelled to face a foreign foe, the completeness of the reunion became instantly and strikingly evident. The war was not one which called for the exercise of more than an insignificant fraction of our strength, and the strain put upon us was slight indeed compared with the results. But it was a satisfactory thing to see the way in which the sons of the soldier of the Union and the soldier of the Confederacy leaped eagerly forward, emulous to show in brotherly rivalry the qualities which had won renown for their fathers, the men of the great war. It was my good fortune to serve under an ex-Confederate general, gallant old Joe Wheeler, who commanded the cavalry at Santiago.

"In my regiment there were certainly as many men whose fathers had served in the South, as there were men whose fathers had served in the Northern army. Among the captains there was opportunity to promote but one to field rank. The man who was singled out for this promotion because of conspicuous gallantry in the field was the son of a Confederate general and was himself a citizen of this, the Palmetto State; and no American officer could wish to march to battle besides a more loyal, gallant, and absolutely fearless comrade than my former captain and major, your fellow-citizen, Micajah Jenkins.

"A few months ago, owing to the enforced absence of the Governor of the Philippines, it became necessary to nominate a Vice Governor to take his place—one of the most important places in our government at this time. I nominated as Vice Governor an ex-Confederate, Gen. Luke Wright, of Tennessee. It is therefore an ex-Confederate who now stands as the exponent of this government and this people in that great group of islands in the eastern seas over which the American flag floats. Gen. Wright has taken a leading part in the work of steadily bringing order and peace out of bloody chaos in which we found the islands. He is now taking a leading part not merely in upholding the honor of the flag by making it respected as the symbol of our power, but still more in upholding its honor by unwearied labor for the establishment of ordered liberty—of law-creating, law-abiding civil government—under its folds.

"The progress which has been made under Gen. Wright and those like him has been indeed marvelous. In fact a letter of the general's the other day seemed to show that he considered there was far more warfare about the Philippines in this country than there was warfare in the Philippines themselves! It is an added proof of the completeness of the reunion of our country that one of the foremost men who have been instrumental in driving forward the great work for civilization and humanity in the Philippines has been a man who in the civil war fought with distinction in a uniform of Confederate gray.

"If ever the need comes in the future the past has made abundantly evident the fact that from this time on Northern and Southern will in war know only the generous desire to strive how each can do the more effective service for the flag of our common country. The same thing is true in the endless work of peace, the never-ending work of building and keeping the marvelous fabric of our industrial prospect.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

Mr. Roosevelt talks at the Charleston position

RECEIVED ROYAL WELCOME

Entertained a Banquet, Where the President He a Highly Appropriate Speech.

The President train reached Charleston at 9:30 a. m., on time. The party did not come in the city, but left the train five miles, where trolley cars were waiting to convey them to the naval station, to the revenue cutter for a tour of the harbor. The President's immediate party went directly to the naval station, where they were joined in a few moments by members of the reception committee and invited guests in the city. A guard of 30 militiamen was stationed at the landing and stood at "presenances" as the President landed. At the naval station 50 men of the militia were posted maintaining the lines around the reservation and not was allowed within the lines except as had passes. The President and his party were shown about the station and then were conducted to the pier where the revenue cutter Algonquin was in waiting. As the President set out on the deck the flag of the commander-in-chief of the army and navy was raised, and the Jackies were paraded while a salute of 21 guns was fired in the stream the cutters Forward and Hamilton, were lying, and further down toward the city were the cruiser Cincinnati and training ships Topeka and Lancaster. After the committee and guests had gone aboard, the Algonquin started on a tour of the harbor. Passing down Cooper river a fine view of the city and the opening of the bay was presented. The weather was perfect. There was not a cloud in the sky all a gentle breeze blew from the ocean with just a bracing touch in it, not still enough in it to require overcoats. Passing into the bay the Algonquin came abreast of the cruiser Cincinnati, whose decks were manned with her crew as well as the Topeka and Lancaster. As the President's vessel passed each ship a salute of 21 guns was fired. Off the fortifications of Sullivan Island the Algonquin was greeted with the same welcome and she passed out to the ocean with gay streamers amid a chorus of guns. Just a little run to the east and the Algonquin turned about and re-entered the harbor, passing around historic Fort Sumter. While steaming up the bay luncheon was served in the cabin of the cutter. A short run was made up the Ashley river giving a view of the western water front and then the ship was headed back for the landing, where a troop of the Charleston Light Dragoons was in waiting to escort the President to his headquarters at the St. John Hotel. All the arrangements were excellent and there was not a break in the programme. The President seemed in good spirits and entered with keen interest into all the features of the occasion.

The banquet tendered to President Roosevelt at night at the Charleston Hotel was a fitting close to a day full of incidents and served to gather together men prominent in the affairs of the State, having solely in mind a greeting to the President, which would prove the sincerity and the warmth of feeling existing for him as the Chief Executive of the nation. The banquet hall was a bower of roses, pinks and similar, artistically arranged, while loosely strewn over the tables were thousands of violets, whose fragrance could only but suggest that spring time had arrived. Over 300 specially invited guests were present and the President was at his best. In a few well-chosen remarks, Mayor Smyth welcomed President Roosevelt to Charleston, whose response was listened to with the closest attention and which was interrupted by loud and continuous applause.

The President's remarks were as follows: "Mr. Mayor and You, My Hosts and My Fellow-Citizens (great applause): I should indeed be but a poor American myself if I were not deeply touched and gratified by the way you have greeted me today in this, your beautiful city, and of course I feel at home here. (Applause.) I think that an American who is worth his salt has the right to feel at home in any part of the United States. (Applause.) Around this table I see many men who took part in the great war. The war in which the younger among us here took part was a very little one because it did not have to be any bigger. (Applause.) But it had one thoroughly good effect—it put the cap on the structure that had been building, while we were almost unconscious of it; and it taught us how thoroughly a one we were. When we got through with that war it did not make a bit of difference to us whether it was an admiral who came from Vermont or a lieutenant who came from Alabama (applause). If the man had done his duty in such shape as to make us each feel an even more generous thrill of pride in our common nationality. The debt that we owed him had little to do with the section from which he came. (Applause.)"

"And now a special word to you of Charleston and of South Carolina. Just twelve years ago, when I first went to Washington to take part in government work I was immediately thrown into singularly close contact and intimacy with a South Carolinian. It was my good fortune to work with him for three years and for the nine years since for as long as I shall continue to be in public life, it will be to me ever a spur to try to do a decent duty for the republic, because I have been thrown intimately in contact with as fearless and as high-minded a public servant as this country has ever had, my old friend, your former Governor, Hugh Thompson. (Great applause.) And from what I have known of you and of your representatives it was in no sense a surprise, but was a keen pleasure to be greeted with the hearty and generous hospitality, which you have shown me today. (Applause.)"

"The way of any part of this country is in a certain sense an index of the welfare of all, and I think, gentlemen, that on the average as we all tend to go up, it seems to be a little better to go up uniformly rather than at a sharper rate, for the time being and then down and then up again and then down. South Carolina seems during the last two decades to have definitely entered upon the path of steady progress in things material as well as in other things. I was much struck in looking over some of the figures of the census quite recently published to see the astonishing progress that has been made here in your State. I was prepared to see that the values of your farm products had risen as they have, a little over 25 per cent. I was prepared to see that your farms themselves have increased in a still larger proportion; that the value of your lands and buildings had grown up, but I did not realize the way in which your manufacturing enterprises had increased, both as shown in the fact that your manufactured products had gone up over 130 per cent.; that for instance the number of spindles has about quadrupled, from less than half a million to more than two million in the State. I did not realize that the wages paid out had increased 75 per cent. Gentlemen, you talk of progress of the far West, but I think South Carolina can give points to some of the States. (Applause.) I think that with such a record for the previous decade you were well warranted upon insisting upon holding your own people here. (Applause.) And, gentlemen, I was very glad for your exposition. You not only took in the Southern States, but you specially included the islands lying south of the United States, those islands with which the events of the last few years have made it evident that we are bound in the future to have closer relations. (great applause), closer relations for our advantage and our advantage can only be secured by making it for their advantage also. (Loud applause.) And about all that I have said applies to the greatest and richest of those islands, the islands with which we have been brought into the most peculiar intimacy and relationship—the island of Cuba. (Applause.) And I ask that in our trade relations with Cuba we give her a marked and substantial advantage, not merely or even mainly because it will redound to our credit, although that also is true that it will redound to our own interest, but I ask it especially because the events have so shaped themselves that it is our duty, as a great and mighty nation, to help Cuba and I hope to see us do our duty. (Cheers and applause.)"

"I shall not try to make you a speech tonight, because for your sins you will have to listen to me make one tomorrow. (Laughter.) I shall merely thank you again with all my heart and say to you that I want you to appreciate that I mean every word I say, and mean it deeply when I tell you I have been touched, more than pleased, touched and stirred by the warmth and heartiness with which you have made me feel today that I am one of you." (Loud applause and cheers.)

The President was followed by Governor McSweeney, who prefaced his prepared speech by a few words in which he assured the President that he was as safe from bodily harm in South Carolina as he was in Washington. Continuing, he said:

Governor McSweeney said in part: "The Anglo-Saxon is entering the century with the imperial crown of the ages on his brow and the sceptre of the infinite in his hands. The old South fought against the stars in their course—the resisting tide of the rising consciousness of nationality and world-mission. The young South greets the new era and glories in its manhood; he joins his voice in the cheers of triumph which are ushering in this all-conquering Saxon. Our old men dreamed of local supremacy; we dream of conquest of the globe. Threads of steel have knit State to State. Steam and electricity have silently transformed the face of the earth, annihilated time and space and swept the ocean barriers from the path of man; the black steam shuttles of commerce have woven continent to continent. These words are taken from a speech delivered at a moment of crisis in the history of a sister State. Civil liberty religious freedom have been placed in our keeping as a trust and it is our duty to be faithful to that trust and to move on and upward till the peoples of all lands shall enjoy the same blessings which are ours. Threads of steel have indeed knit us close together and now we know no North and no South, no East and no West, but hand in hand we are striving for the uplifting and betterment of mankind."

"I want to say in this presence, and in the presence of the President of the United States, that while we may not agree on many questions of policy, that we are all American citizens and the boys of the South will respond to the call of their country, which is the call of duty, as quickly and readily as those of any other section. When four years ago America 'let slip the dogs of war' and sent her armies and navies to drive the tyrant from Cuba's wasted shores, together 'in the gloom of the gory trenches and the ramparts wrapt in flame,' stood the sons of the frozen North who wore the blue with those of the sunny South who wore the gray, to defend the honor of their common country. Side by side and shoulder to shoulder they fought till the broken power of Spain in the Western world attested the fact that the men who made and withstood Pickett's charge at Gettysburg could clasp hands over the graves of their fallen heroes and together shed their blood in defense of human rights and their country's cause. It was a Southern boy who first planted the Stars and Stripes on foreign soil; it was a Southern boy who first gave up his fair young life in this cause, and the cold, still form of Ensign Bagley, wrapt about with the silken folds of his country's flag, was laid to rest 'mid the lamentations of a reunited people.' And in the same sepulchres where lie the bravest who gave their lives in that conflict, is buried the last remnant of any antagonism which might have existed between the sections."

"I am glad that President Roosevelt has come to this grand old city, that he may see and know us as we are. That he may know and realize that though we may not agree in politics, we know how to welcome the President of our common country. That he may know and appreciate what Southern hospitality means, and right here in

country is in a certain sense an index of the welfare of all, and I think, gentlemen, that on the average as we all tend to go up, it seems to be a little better to go up uniformly rather than at a sharper rate, for the time being and then down and then up again and then down. South Carolina seems during the last two decades to have definitely entered upon the path of steady progress in things material as well as in other things. I was much struck in looking over some of the figures of the census quite recently published to see the astonishing progress that has been made here in your State. I was prepared to see that the values of your farm products had risen as they have, a little over 25 per cent. I was prepared to see that your farms themselves have increased in a still larger proportion; that the value of your lands and buildings had grown up, but I did not realize the way in which your manufacturing enterprises had increased, both as shown in the fact that your manufactured products had gone up over 130 per cent.; that for instance the number of spindles has about quadrupled, from less than half a million to more than two million in the State. I did not realize that the wages paid out had increased 75 per cent. Gentlemen, you talk of progress of the far West, but I think South Carolina can give points to some of the States. (Applause.) I think that with such a record for the previous decade you were well warranted upon insisting upon holding your own people here. (Applause.) And, gentlemen, I was very glad for your exposition. You not only took in the Southern States, but you specially included the islands lying south of the United States, those islands with which the events of the last few years have made it evident that we are bound in the future to have closer relations. (great applause), closer relations for our advantage and our advantage can only be secured by making it for their advantage also. (Loud applause.) And about all that I have said applies to the greatest and richest of those islands, the islands with which we have been brought into the most peculiar intimacy and relationship—the island of Cuba. (Applause.) And I ask that in our trade relations with Cuba we give her a marked and substantial advantage, not merely or even mainly because it will redound to our credit, although that also is true that it will redound to our own interest, but I ask it especially because the events have so shaped themselves that it is our duty, as a great and mighty nation, to help Cuba and I hope to see us do our duty. (Cheers and applause.)"

"I shall not try to make you a speech tonight, because for your sins you will have to listen to me make one tomorrow. (Laughter.) I shall merely thank you again with all my heart and say to you that I want you to appreciate that I mean every word I say, and mean it deeply when I tell you I have been touched, more than pleased, touched and stirred by the warmth and heartiness with which you have made me feel today that I am one of you." (Loud applause and cheers.)

The President was followed by Governor McSweeney, who prefaced his prepared speech by a few words in which he assured the President that he was as safe from bodily harm in South Carolina as he was in Washington. Continuing, he said:

Governor McSweeney said in part: "The Anglo-Saxon is entering the century with the imperial crown of the ages on his brow and the sceptre of the infinite in his hands. The old South fought against the stars in their course—the resisting tide of the rising consciousness of nationality and world-mission. The young South greets the new era and glories in its manhood; he joins his voice in the cheers of triumph which are ushering in this all-conquering Saxon. Our old men dreamed of local supremacy; we dream of conquest of the globe. Threads of steel have knit State to State. Steam and electricity have silently transformed the face of the earth, annihilated time and space and swept the ocean barriers from the path of man; the black steam shuttles of commerce have woven continent to continent. These words are taken from a speech delivered at a moment of crisis in the history of a sister State. Civil liberty religious freedom have been placed in our keeping as a trust and it is our duty to be faithful to that trust and to move on and upward till the peoples of all lands shall enjoy the same blessings which are ours. Threads of steel have indeed knit us close together and now we know no North and no South, no East and no West, but hand in hand we are striving for the uplifting and betterment of mankind."

"I want to say in this presence, and in the presence of the President of the United States, that while we may not agree on many questions of policy, that we are all American citizens and the boys of the South will respond to the call of their country, which is the call of duty, as quickly and readily as those of any other section. When four years ago America 'let slip the dogs of war' and sent her armies and navies to drive the tyrant from Cuba's wasted shores, together 'in the gloom of the gory trenches and the ramparts wrapt in flame,' stood the sons of the frozen North who wore the blue with those of the sunny South who wore the gray, to defend the honor of their common country. Side by side and shoulder to shoulder they fought till the broken power of Spain in the Western world attested the fact that the men who made and withstood Pickett's charge at Gettysburg could clasp hands over the graves of their fallen heroes and together shed their blood in defense of human rights and their country's cause. It was a Southern boy who first planted the Stars and Stripes on foreign soil; it was a Southern boy who first gave up his fair young life in this cause, and the cold, still form of Ensign Bagley, wrapt about with the silken folds of his country's flag, was laid to rest 'mid the lamentations of a reunited people.' And in the same sepulchres where lie the bravest who gave their lives in that conflict, is buried the last remnant of any antagonism which might have existed between the sections."

"I am glad that President Roosevelt has come to this grand old city, that he may see and know us as we are. That he may know and realize that though we may not agree in politics, we know how to welcome the President of our common country. That he may know and appreciate what Southern hospitality means, and right here in

country is in a certain sense an index of the welfare of all, and I think, gentlemen, that on the average as we all tend to go up, it seems to be a little better to go up uniformly rather than at a sharper rate, for the time being and then down and then up again and then down. South Carolina seems during the last two decades to have definitely entered upon the path of steady progress in things material as well as in other things. I was much struck in looking over some of the figures of the census quite recently published to see the astonishing progress that has been made here in your State. I was prepared to see that the values of your farm products had risen as they have, a little over 25 per cent. I was prepared to see that your farms themselves have increased in a still larger proportion; that the value of your lands and buildings had grown up, but I did not realize the way in which your manufacturing enterprises had increased, both as shown in the fact that your manufactured products had gone up over 130 per cent.; that for instance the number of spindles has about quadrupled, from less than half a million to more than two million in the State. I did not realize that the wages paid out had increased 75 per cent. Gentlemen, you talk of progress of the far West, but I think South Carolina can give points to some of the States. (Applause.) I think that with such a record for the previous decade you were well warranted upon insisting upon holding your own people here. (Applause.) And, gentlemen, I was very glad for your exposition. You not only took in the Southern States, but you specially included the islands lying south of the United States, those islands with which the events of the last few years have made it evident that we are bound in the future to have closer relations. (great applause), closer relations for our advantage and our advantage can only be secured by making it for their advantage also. (Loud applause.) And about all that I have said applies to the greatest and richest of those islands, the islands with which we have been brought into the most peculiar intimacy and relationship—the island of Cuba. (Applause.) And I ask that in our trade relations with Cuba we give her a marked and substantial advantage, not merely or even mainly because it will redound to our credit, although that also is true that it will redound to our own interest, but I ask it especially because the events have so shaped themselves that it is our duty, as a great and mighty nation, to help Cuba and I hope to see us do our duty. (Cheers and applause.)"

"I shall not try to make you a speech tonight, because for your sins you will have to listen to me make one tomorrow. (Laughter.) I shall merely thank you again with all my heart and say to you that I want you to appreciate that I mean every word I say, and mean it deeply when I tell you I have been touched, more than pleased, touched and stirred by the warmth and heartiness with which you have made me feel today that I am one of you." (Loud applause and cheers.)

The President was followed by Governor McSweeney, who prefaced his prepared speech by a few words in which he assured the President that he was as safe from bodily harm in South Carolina as he was in Washington. Continuing, he said:

Governor McSweeney said in part: "The Anglo-Saxon is entering the century with the imperial crown of the ages on his brow and the sceptre of the infinite in his hands. The old South fought against the stars in their course—the resisting tide of the rising consciousness of nationality and world-mission. The young South greets the new era and glories in its manhood; he joins his voice in the cheers of triumph which are ushering in this all-conquering Saxon. Our old men dreamed of local supremacy; we dream of conquest of the globe. Threads of steel have knit State to State. Steam and electricity have silently transformed the face of the earth, annihilated time and space and swept the ocean barriers from the path of man; the black steam shuttles of commerce have woven continent to continent. These words are taken from a speech delivered at a moment of crisis in the history of a sister State. Civil liberty religious freedom have been placed in our keeping as a trust and it is our duty to be faithful to that trust and to move on and upward till the peoples of all lands shall enjoy the same blessings which are ours. Threads of steel have indeed knit us close together and now we know no North and no South, no East and no West, but hand in hand we are striving for the uplifting and betterment of mankind."

"I want to say in this presence, and in the presence of the President of the United States, that while we may not agree on many questions of policy, that we are all American citizens and the boys of the South will respond to the call of their country, which is the call of duty, as quickly and readily as those of any other section. When four years ago America 'let slip the dogs of war' and sent her armies and navies to drive the tyrant from Cuba's wasted shores, together 'in the gloom of the gory trenches and the ramparts wrapt in flame,' stood the sons of the frozen North who wore the blue with those of the sunny South who wore the gray, to defend the honor of their common country. Side by side and shoulder to shoulder they fought till the broken power of Spain in the Western world attested the fact that the men who made and withstood Pickett's charge at Gettysburg could clasp hands over the graves of their fallen heroes and together shed their blood in defense of human rights and their country's cause. It was a Southern boy who first planted the Stars and Stripes on foreign soil; it was a Southern boy who first gave up his fair young life in this cause, and the cold, still form of Ensign Bagley, wrapt about with the silken folds of his country's flag, was laid to rest 'mid the lamentations of a reunited people.' And in the same sepulchres where lie the bravest who gave their lives in that conflict, is buried the last remnant of any antagonism which might have existed between the sections."

"I am glad that President Roosevelt has come to this grand old city, that he may see and know us as we are. That he may know and realize that though we may not agree in politics, we know how to welcome the President of our common country. That he may know and appreciate what Southern hospitality means, and right here in

country is in a certain sense an index of the welfare of all, and I think, gentlemen, that on the average as we all tend to go up, it seems to be a little better to go up uniformly rather than at a sharper rate, for the time being and then down and then up again and then down. South Carolina seems during the last two decades to have definitely entered upon the path of steady progress in things material as well as in other things. I was much struck in looking over some of the figures of the census quite recently published to see the astonishing progress that has been made here in your State. I was prepared to see that the values of your farm products had risen as they have, a little over 25 per cent. I was prepared to see that your farms themselves have increased in a still larger proportion; that the value of your lands and buildings had grown up, but I did not realize the way in which your manufacturing enterprises had increased, both as shown in the fact that your manufactured products had gone up over 130 per cent.; that for instance the number of spindles has about quadrupled, from less than half a million to more than two million in the State. I did not realize that the wages paid out had increased 75 per cent. Gentlemen, you talk of progress of the far West, but I think South Carolina can give points to some of the States. (Applause.) I think that with such a record for the previous decade you were well warranted upon insisting upon holding your own people here. (Applause.) And, gentlemen, I was very glad for your exposition. You not only took in the Southern States, but you specially included the islands lying south of the United States, those islands with which the events of the last few years have made it evident that we are bound in the future to have closer relations. (great applause), closer relations for our advantage and our advantage can only be secured by making it for their advantage also. (Loud applause.) And about all that I have said applies to the greatest and richest of those islands, the islands with which we have been brought into the most peculiar intimacy and relationship—the island of Cuba. (Applause.) And I ask that in our trade relations with Cuba we give her a marked and substantial advantage, not merely or even mainly because it will redound to our credit, although that also is true that it will redound to our own interest, but I ask it especially because the events have so shaped themselves that it is our duty, as a great and mighty nation, to help Cuba and I hope to see us do our duty. (Cheers and applause.)"

"I shall not try to make you a speech tonight, because for your sins you will have to listen to me make one tomorrow. (Laughter.) I shall merely thank you again with all my heart and say to you that I want you to appreciate that I mean every word I say, and mean it deeply when I tell you I have been touched, more than pleased, touched and stirred by the warmth and heartiness with which you have made me feel today that I am one of you." (Loud applause and cheers.)

The President was followed by Governor McSweeney, who prefaced his prepared speech by a few words in which he assured the President that he was as safe from bodily harm in South Carolina as he was in Washington. Continuing, he said:

Charleston he will find the highest type of this old-time Southern hospitality. We hope that his coming will be beneficial to all of us."

Capt. Wagner, Governor Aycock, of North Carolina, and several others made short addresses. It was midnight when the party broke up and as the President left the room he was cheered to the echo, not only by those who had been fortunate enough to attend the banquet, but by the large numbers who had patiently waited in the hotel parlors and outside to catch a glimpse of him. Upon arrival at his hotel he immediately retired.

IN CONGRESS.

Detailed Doings of Our National Law-makers.

Nineteenth Day.—The feature of the second day's debate in the House on the Cuban reciprocity bill was an impassioned speech in opposition to the measure by Wm. A. Smith, a Michigan Republican. Senators Spooner and Quarens, of Wisconsin, and Dilliver, of Iowa, and a group of Michigan beet sugar manufacturers were in the gallery and he was liberally applauded by his Republican supporters as he assailed the Republican leaders who were advocating the bill, boldly charging them with being false to the Republican doctrine of protection. In the course of his remarks he announced that he was willing to vote to overrule the chair in order to support an amendment to take the differential off refined sugar.

Mr. Morris, of Minnesota, another Republican, who made a strong speech against the bill, also made a similar announcement. The other speakers today were Mr. Ball, Democrat, of Texas, and Mr. Sparkman, Democrat of Texas, both of whom opposed the bill, and Mr. Mendell, of Wyoming, who advocated its passage.

The Democrats and Republican opponents of the measure are trying to get together on the proposition to take the differential off refined sugar. The indications are that the debate will be protracted. The demand for time to speak is great and there is now no expectation that the general debate will be completed until next week.

In the course of Mr. Smith's speech, Mr. Underwood, of Alabama, asked Mr. Smith if he would vote to take the differential off refined sugar coming from Cuba. Mr. Smith replied that no refined sugar came from Cuba and in turn asked Mr. Underwood if his (the Democratic) side would vote to overrule the chair and join in voting to take the differential off the sugar of the world. After some sparring, during which Mr. Underwood showed a disposition to evade the question, in response to the promptings of the Democrats around him, he finally ventured the prediction that there would be an opportunity to vote upon the proposition to take the differential off the sugar of the world. "If there is," observed Mr. Smith, "I will watch your vote with great interest."

"We are not here," said Mr. Morris, "to make laws for the benefit of soldiers of fortune who go to Cuba instead of home and of such buccaners as Mr. Havemeyer, the head of the sugar trust." "But, gentlemen," he added, turning to his Republican colleagues, "if you are determined to do this thing, if you insist upon giving the sugar trust a present of two and a half millions, let us give the sugar trust a dose of its own medicine. Let us take the differential off of refined sugar under which the trust has grown strong and powerful." He called upon the Democrats to stand with the Republicans and "hit" the sugar trust and "hit it hard." The Democrats cried out that they would join with the Republicans and applauded vigorously.

Mr. Ball, of Texas, denied that the bill was in line with Democratic doctrine, because it was admitted that it would not result in reducing the price of sugar to the American consumer. Its sole beneficiary, he argued, would be the sugar trust.

SENATE.

Nineteenth Day.—Throughout the day's session of the Senate the Chinese exclusion bill was under consideration. Three speeches were delivered upon the subject by Mr. Gallinger, of New Hampshire, and Mr. Dillingham, of Vermont, opposing it, and Mr. Turner, of Washington, supporting it. Mr. Gallinger urged that the pending bill was unnecessary.

Mr. Gallinger maintained that the pending subject was a matter for diplomatic negotiation and not for congressional action. In this connection he read Minister Wu's recent letter to Secretary of State Hay, in which he protested against the enactment of the bill, declaring that it would disturb the friendly relations between the United States and China.

Mr. Mitchell, of Oregon, inquired of Mr. Gallinger what he thought of the propriety of a foreign minister criticizing measures pending before Congress. Mr. Foraker, of Ohio, said that the Chinese minister clearly was within his rights.

In an extended address, Mr. Turner appealed to the Senate to pass the proposed bill, not merely for the protection of the people of the Pacific States, but to prevent the entire body politic from being contaminated by the Chinese.

Mr. Dillingham advocated the re-enactment of the present Geary law. He declared that representatives of the Pacific States had expressed themselves as perfectly satisfied with the operation of the existing law and that there was no proper reason for a change, particularly as the change would involve great trouble and expense.

Mr. Fairbanks, of Indiana, reported favorably from the committee on immigration the Chinese exclusion bill passed by the House of Representatives. It was placed on the calendar.

Parisians Eat Many Snails.

During the last year Paris consumed 800 tons of snails. The animals are bred in Burgundy and Savoy, where they are kept in inclosures formed of arched palings, which they can not climb over, and are fed upon vicia leaves. It is said that they thus acquire the delicate flavor of a superior Burgundy wine; but the flavor is, in practice, generally overwhelmed by an extensive mixture of chopped garlic.

LIVE ITEMS OF NEWS.

Many Matters of General Interest in Short Paragraphs.

The Sunny South.

Notice of a strike and lockout of 6000 cotton mill operatives was posted at Augusta, Ga.

The Elkins Development Company, just incorporated, has purchased 153 acres in the suburbs of Elkins, W. Va., for residence and manufacturing sites.

At Newport News Saturday afternoon William Miner, colored, fell across a stove in a spasm and was slowly roasted to death. Several hours elapsed before he was found.

The suit of Bell's heirs, colored, for property valued at \$50,000 in the east end of Richmond will be carried to the United States Supreme Court. Judge Goff, of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals, decided against Bell's heirs a few